

inside
the review
THIS WEEK

winners
named in
**POPPY
CONTEST**

2

baptist
church
CONCERT

6

elementary
school
CONCERTS

7

early
DEADLINE

Due to the New Year's
holiday, deadline for
the January 4, 2000
paper will be 4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 28.

■ Here comes Year 2000!

First Night Festival will be an evening for the whole family

Elk Point and area families will enjoy an evening of fun for the whole family as the century draws to a close this New Year's Eve, at the 1999 First Night Festival. Because many people work regular hours on Friday, December 31, the event is planned for a 6:00 p.m. start. All events are free of charge, and the whole family is welcome to attend and bring their friends.

There will be Family Skating at A. G. Ross Arena from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., with Popcorn the Clown joining the gang on the ice at 7:00 p.m. for games with

the kids. The arena concession booth will be open so you may purchase snacks or warm up with hot chocolate.

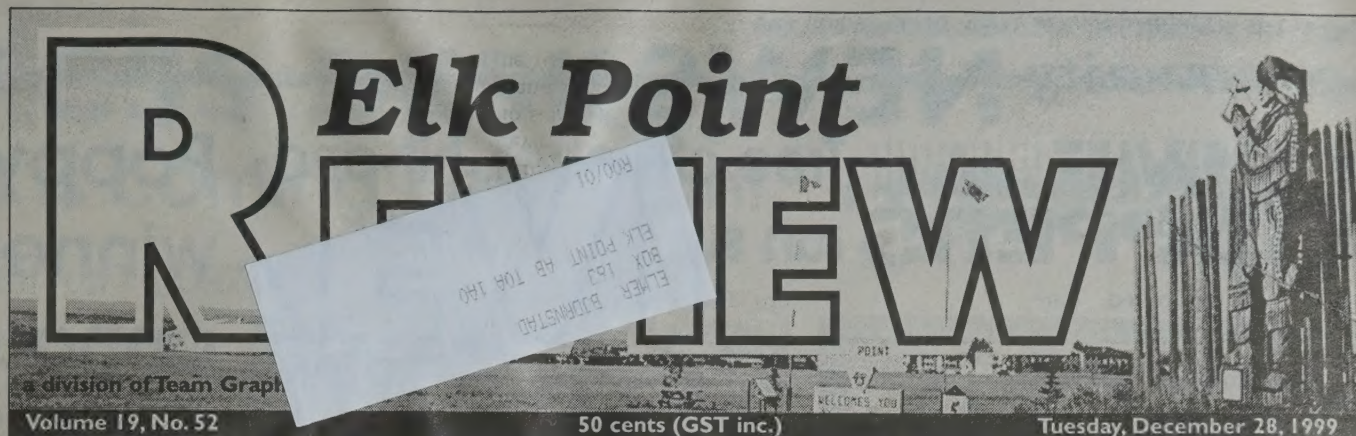


Horse-drawn Sleigh Rides are scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. and will run until 8:30 p.m., north of the arena.

A Snowman Building Contest is open to all ages, and will also take place north of the arena, with judging at 7:30 p.m. and special Millennium prizes to be awarded.

Musical entertainment and more is also on the schedule, all to take place in the arena.

First Night will end with a bang: a glorious fireworks display at 9:00 p.m., to salute the end of this century and to herald the coming of the Year 2000.



Elk Point lights up for Christmas



'Twas the night before Christmas... when Santa left his sleigh and reindeer parked on the Mudryk roof while he read the tiny tots in the lower left corner a bedtime story in this winning residential yard decor, which is cute in daylight and spectacular at night.

Elk Point and district residents have once again done a magnificent job of lighting up the area for Christmas. Judging took place last week, with a busload of seniors touring the town Monday night to do the in-town residences, while a vari-

ety of other judges took on the task for rural residences, institutions and businesses.

The decision was unanimous in the Residential category, with all the judges much intrigued by the first prize display created by Wayne and Brenda Mudryk, 56A Ave. "Up

on the housetop, reindeer pause..." says the song, and there's the sleigh, parked up on top, with six pairs of authentic antlers showing clearly over the ridge. A combination of colored and icicle lights and lighted silhouettes in the windows enhance every corner of the

house, and red ribbons and green garlands wrap pillars and posts. A charming old-fashioned light post stands sentinel by the sidewalk, and over to one side, Santa is seated in a deep chair, reading a story to two snowsuited tots.

Second place goes to Amelia and Jim Bowen at the corner of 52 Avenue and 54 Street, whose combination of white and red icicle lights and colored lights turned their handsome arch-fronted home into a virtual gingerbread cottage. A benchful of weary-soft-sculpture shoppers complete with gifts, and a cheerful sign-bearing snowman, complete the look.

Third place ended in a three-way tie, with two many-time winners tied with a first time winner. Marie and Walter Lesyk, 54A St., and Diane and Len Cole, 51 Avenue, have long been known for their spectacular displays of lights, figures and action, and this year was no exception. They just keep getting better and better. The simple but effective combination of colored and icicle lights used by Annette and Roger VanDenBossche, 52 Avenue, also impressed the judges, who asked that this home also be entered into the tie.

Honorable mentions went to Houles, Millers, Meyenburgs, Hebblethwaites, Hahns and Pankiws, all with outstanding displays.

(Continued on Page 8)



ALL SHOPPED OUT! Santa and his family had to take a rest on the Bowen family's bench after all that pre-Christmas shopping in downtown Elk Point last week.

community NEWS

CRIME STOPPERS Tree chopper, hit-and-run suspect sought

By Cst. J. E. McDonald
Elk Point RCMP

Between 10:00 p.m. on December 21, 1999 and 10:00 a.m. on December 22, a large blue spruce tree was cut down in a yard located on the south side of Highway 646 several kilometers east of Elk Point. The tree, which was 10 to 12 feet high, was dragged toward a vehicle parked on Highway 646 by one person and then left in the

ditch.

Anyone who might have seen a vehicle parked on Highway 646 at the noted location and time or with other information is asked to call CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or the Elk Point RCMP Detachment at 724-3829.

Hit & Run

On December 1, 1999 between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. a hit and run occurred at the Co-

op/TD Bank intersection in Elk Point. The accident included a red 1987 Blazer that was backed into by a maroon 1995 or 1996 extended cab truck with white decals in the back and possibly black and red "Heartbeat of America" mudflaps. The driver of the truck stopped to see if the occupants of the Blazer were OK but refused to provide personal information before leaving the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or the Elk Point RCMP Detachment at (780) 724-3829.

Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2000 for information leading to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for these or any other crimes.

You do not have to reveal your identity and if your tip leads to an arrest you qualify for an award.

Poppy contest winners announced

Elk Point Royal Canadian Legion Branch #151 has announced their 1999 Poppy Contest winners from four local schools.

Winning in the **Poem** category were Amanda Quinney, Frog Lake Napawaew Junior High; Helen Ramful and Kristyn Buksa, Elk Point Elementary; Amanda Frisby, F. G. Miller Senior High; Jordan Cousins and Scott Lindquist, F. G. Miller Junior High.

In the **Essay** category, winners were Amanda Quinney, Frog Lake Napawaew Junior High; Christina Moores and Brittany Ballas, Elk Point Elementary; Megan Proskiw and Nathan Jurak, F. G. Miller Junior High.

Top Colored Poster artists were April Stanley, Vanessa Deschamps and Billy Quinney, Frog Lake Napawaew Elementary; Melanth Abraham and Rachel Dumont, Heinsburg Elementary; Lisa Kozicky and Sara Kozicky, Elk Point Elementary; Ashley Hebblethwaite and Devin Moneta, F. G. Miller Junior High.

Black and White Poster winners were Amanda Quinney and Allister Waskahat, Frog Lake Napawaew Junior High; Crystal Berland, Frog Lake Napawaew Elementary; Kristen Singer and Jody Stanley, Heinsburg Elementary; Cody Brown and Brittany Buryn, Elk Point Elementary; Amy Millar and Kristy Myshaniuk, F. G. Miller Junior High.

Presentation of awards has been postponed until March, 2000 due to the recent flu outbreak which has affected both students and Legion members.

THANK YOU

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WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE
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**LIQUIDATION
WORLD**

from the FCSS DESK

Year 2000 is coming very soon!

Get set for an exciting new century

By Deanna Easthope
FCSS Director

We have heard so much about the beginning of the Year 2000. After all, all of us have heard about the Y2K problem! The fear of it was spread to everything that is basic to us - like our food, our shelter and our financial security. In a few days we will find out if our fears were valid or if the "wisdom" of the computer age people was able to avert any potential problem.

Looking at life as it might be reminds me of Norman Rockwell and the contributions he made. He is known for his optimistic and affectionate portraits of life. His world on canvas depicts real people - friends, neighbors, and family - doing real things. During his 84 years, he painted more than 300 covers for the Saturday Evening Post. And, while critics were often not kind, most people were instinctively drawn to his art. Somehow it reminded them of the goodness of life. As Rockwell once noted: "I paint life as I would like it to be."

Yes, Rockwell could have easily painted, as some say, "life as it is." He could have concentrated on scenes of sorrow and moments of misery. He might have painted the mean and nasty, the cruel and depraved. His canvas could have been colored with conflict and despair. Certainly such hopeless hues could be found - both then and now. Painting his way through the Depression and two world wars, he did

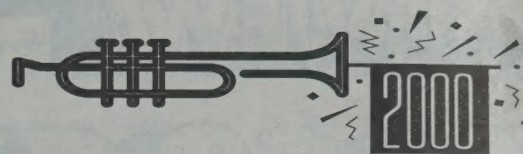
not live in a trouble-free world, to be sure! And yet, Rockwell chose to look for the good, the kind, the simple and happy moments that make life worth living.

Think what would happen if we chose to paint - in our mind's eye - life as we would like it to be. We might find more love, more friendship, more forgiveness - because we are looking for it. Perhaps we would appreciate more of the simple pleasures, small gestures and gentle remarks that are directed our way. Maybe the horizon would not seem so ominous, streets so dangerous, hearts so cold.

To those who argue that this "rose-colored" view of the world is not realistic, we acknowledge the ugly side of life. But beautiful things happen on ugly days, and joy can be discovered among the sadness of life. Referring to Norman Rockwell, one art critic wrote: "He... reassured (people) of their own essential goodness. And that is a very powerful thing" - so powerful that, for

many of us, Rockwell's life "as he would like it to be" is somehow remembered as life as it really was: the "good old days" for which we may long.

But those good old days are never over. We, too, can paint life as we'd like it to be. And the more we look, the more goodness we will find; and the more "life as we would like it to be" will become life as it really is. And that's a very powerful thing. Happy 2000, everyone!



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and

January 1, 2000

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New Year's Eve Dine & Dance

Friday, December 31, 1999

ELK POINT SENIORS CENTRE

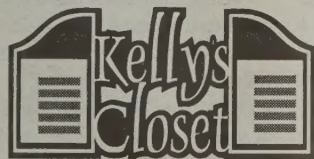
Dinner: 7 pm; Dance to follow; Cash Bar

\$25.00 per person. **Tickets includes:**

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with prizes as well
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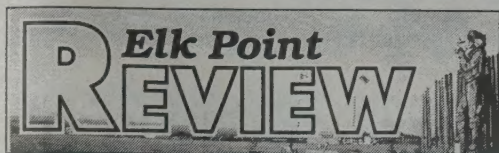
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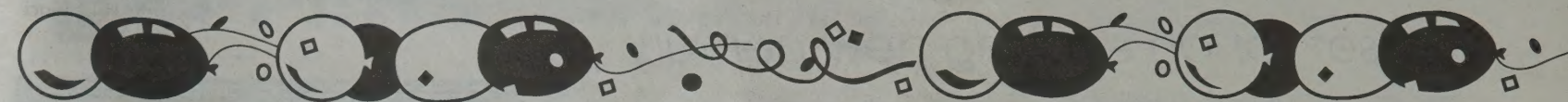
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VIEWPOINTS



■ Nutrition notes

Healthy holiday eating habits

By Linda Fox, RD
Elk Point Health Centre

The Christmas season is full of happy times and good food. Being in close proximity to all those tantalizing foods can sometimes make it difficult to exercise control over what and how much you eat.

Here are some tips to help you get through the Christmas season without feeling guilty about your choices:

■ Many recipes can be modified to make them lower in fat and sugar. Just because Mother/Grandmother always made it that way, doesn't mean that you can't alter it a little bit without affecting the taste.

■ If you have an old favorite traditional recipe that you know is high in fat, sugar and energy that you prefer not to modify, aim at having a small portion. Include some high fiber/low fat foods, for example, fruits and vegetables, to fill up on so you're not tempted to overeat the "special" food.

■ Cooking method is also important for the main meal. Try to use cooking methods that add little fat (boil, bake, broil, steam, roast) and add less fat to foods, for example, use lower fat milk to mash potatoes instead of butter and cream/whole milk.

■ Snacking on candy, chocolates, nuts and baked goodies during the holidays is a common ritual. Try to limit the amount of these snacks eaten by throwing in some fresh fruit, raw veggies and low fat dip, or even a turkey sandwich.

■ If you are going out to a late dinner, have a snack before you go. This will help to prevent overhunger which can lead to overeating.

■ Don't forget about water. Eating all that rich food, especially when combined with alcohol, can lead to dehydration. Drink enough fluids to hydrate your body (Water is an excellent choice). This will help to keep you alert, motivated and feeling good.

■ Try to maintain an exercise plan over the holidays. Maybe Santa will bring cross-country skis, snowshoes or a toboggan. Don't forget that walking is exercise too. Go out as a family and have some fun. Exercise will make you feel less like overeating and will help to use up some of those extra calories that are hard to avoid at this time of year.

If you overdo it at Christmas, aim to get back on track after the holidays. Remember, it is what's done the majority of the time that counts.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

■ From the Legislature

Y2K Alberta members confident all will go well

By Paul Langevin, MLA
LacLaBiche - St. Paul

Members of the Y2K Alberta confirmed they are ready for the transition to the Year 2000, as expressed at the group's last meeting before the transition event. Dave Noble, Y2K Alberta Chair, said that the level of cooperation that has existed over the past year has been valuable to everyone involved in the process. Y2K Alberta has built relationships that have not only helped us manage the transition to the Year 2000, but will also serve the province for many years to come.

Members have openly shared information across industries and with govern-

ment regarding readiness status for the millennium. As a result of this information sharing, Y2K Alberta members feel they are in the best position to deal with any disruptions in essential services that may occur.

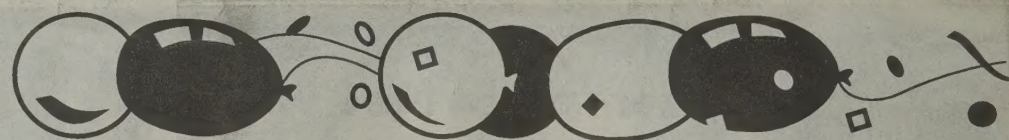
Y2K Alberta was able to report last spring that no widespread or extended disruptions in essential services were expected when the clock rolls over to January 1, 2000.

Y2K Alberta consists of more than 60 essential service providers, including electric utilities, the banking industry, health care providers, the oil and gas industry, telecommunication services, emergency responders and municipal, provincial and federal govern-

ment representatives, who have been meeting since 1998 to address provincial health and safety concerns related to the Y2K bug.

After the new year, the members of Y2K Alberta plan to maintain the structure to address other provincial concerns related to emergency preparedness. More information about Y2K Alberta is available on the web at www.y2kalberta.org or by calling 780-415-0910.

I can be reached in my constituency office at 645-6999 or 780-623-1730. My mailing address is Box 1848, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0. I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and the best of health in the new year. Seasons Greetings.



Lakeland launches telehealth network to improve access to health care

SMOKY LAKE - Technology will mean greater access to health services for Lakeland residents through the implementation of a telehealth network in the Region, Pearl Babiuk, CEO, Lakeland Regional Health Authority announced December 17.

"Access to health services, administration of those services and education of health care providers will all be greatly enhanced over the coming months and years as a result of this technology," explained Babiuk. "It connects health care providers within the Lakeland Region to each other, and to experts outside the Region."

Babiuk went on to say that "one of the many complexities of a rural region that is spread out over 33,000 square kilometers, is providing timely access to clinical expertise. It is not always possible or beneficial to bring the patient to the expert, and is often difficult, costly and time consuming to bring the

expert to the patient."

Telehealth uses the expertise of health care professionals combined with computers, telecommunications and medical devices. It comprises interactive audio and video systems that meet the exacting requirements involved in the delivery of health care services. A network involves multiple sites from which and to which information can be shared, and interactions can take place to enhance the delivery of care.

"The opportunities are limitless," Babiuk commented. "And Lakeland intends to take full advantage of this technology to provide better access to health services for our residents."

Telehealth is currently being used in Lakeland for:

- Real-time psychiatric consultations
- Consultations with specialized rehabilitation experts
- Consultations with specialized physicians

■ Education of and enhanced communication between health care providers

■ Teleultrasound / Teleradiography (pilot)

As clinical protocols are developed and tested, new applications for telehealth will be instituted.

"The movement of patients will be reduced dramatically over time with Lakeland patients having more immediate access to specialized health services without leaving their community or Region," Babiuk continued.

Telehealth sites have now been established in seven centres in the Lakeland Region: pre-existing sites, Two Hills and St. Paul; new sites, Vegreville, Fort Saskatchewan, Bonnyville, Cold Lake and Lac La Biche.

The Lakeland Regional Health Authority and Alberta we//net, and Alberta Health and Wellness program, will cover operational costs.



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community-NEWS

Final concert of the century at Elk Point Baptist Church

The final Christmas Concert of this century at Elk Point Baptist Church took place on Sunday evening, December 19. With a full house in attendance, the master of ceremonies, Rick Peters, accompanied by Laurie Keichinger on the piano started off the evening with familiar Christmas carols and a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday, Jesus" sung to the rhythm of authentic sleigh bells.

The Preschool to Grade 2 classes, led by Lucille Povaschuk and Bernie Kozicky held an actual birthday party for Jesus with a real cake. The Quist family, singing under their name Crystal River, provided two heart touching melodies, with Leslie and Cliff taking

vocal lead respectively and Shane on the drums. Interspersed throughout the evening, the MC led the enthusiastic congregation in traditional Christmas carols.

Attendees were challenged by the Grades 4 to 6 classes, led by Sherry Oszust and Bev Peterson, to value the talents that God has given them. They communicated this important lesson through an engaging Gift Exchange drama. This important lesson was followed by a poignant skit by the Junior High class, led by Jim MacLellan, who reminded everyone that Jesus did not come just to ride with us through life, but to lead us.

The poetic flair of Roberta Keichinger was

shared by Leslie Quist as she read an original of Roberta's called "What Does Christmas Mean to You?" "It's Still the Greatest Story Ever Told" was sung by Kerry Anderson as she accompanied herself on the piano. This engaging solo reminded us all of the significance of this special Season.

The High School class dramatically portrayed a real life scenario depicting the conflicting values between a Christian teenager, not shared by her boyfriend. The play, led by Carl and Lois Ramer, left the viewer wondering about the outcome — not unlike the "Drama of Our Lives."

Sherry Oszust brought a sobering solo entitled "The Way He Came."

This musical message brought to close a reenactment of the original Christmas story depicted by the Adult Sunday School Class and narrated by Cliff Quist.

Lawrence Modin presented to Jim and Debra

MacLellan, warm love and greetings from the Church accompanied by a special Christmas gift. Pastor Jim expressed their deep gratefulness to everyone, wishing them all a blessed Christmas. The concert concluded

with a scrumptious lunch served by the ladies of the Church will all the children receiving special candy bags packed full of seasonal goodies.

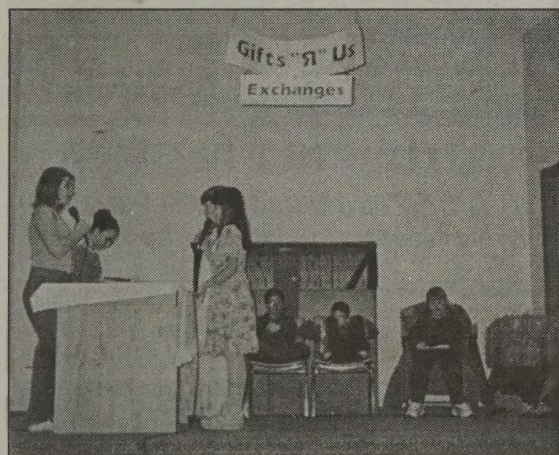
Thanks to Pastor MacLellan for coverage and photos of the concert.



A LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM -- the Adult Sunday School Class portrayed the ancient and beloved story of the birth of Christ in a Bethlehem stable.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR JESUS -- Preschool to Grade 2 classes, with instructors Lucille Povaschuk and Bernie Kozicky, had a birthday party for Jesus.



JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS explored a meaningful way to celebrate Christmas.

Thank You

A big thank you to the Ferguson Flats Association members and friends who organized the party to honor my 50 years of community service. It was most unexpected but truly appreciated.

Thank you for the gifts, cards, luncheon and thoughtfulness.

I also wish to extend my best wishes to all of you as we enter into the new millennium and may the Ferguson Flats Association continue on successfully for many more years.

Sincerely
Olga Ockerman

CHURCH SERVICES



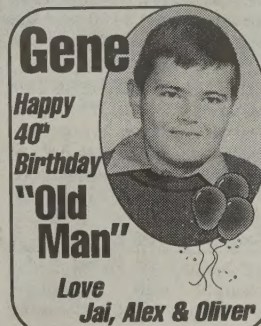
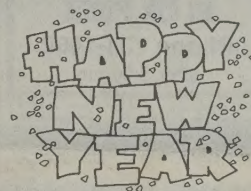
Elk Point Baptist Church
5705 - 49 St., Elk Point
Pastor Jim MacLellan - 724-4194
Family Worship Service
Sundays - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages -
11:15 a.m.
Call Church answering service for
current programs and times.
**Elk Point Christian
Community Church**
Rev. Sam Donaldson - 724-2493.
Railway Avenue and 53 St.
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12 noon

**St. Michael's Catholic
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Sunday Mass 12 p.m.
**Bethel Lutheran Church
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1st 3 Sundays of the month

**St. Vladimirs' Ukrainian
Orthodox Church Elk Point**
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St. Paul or 724-4351, Elk Point.

United Church of Canada
4822 - 50 Ave., Elk Point
Rev. Jope Langejans - 724-3616
Worship Service - Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
"Come and be Welcomed -
Come and be Nurtured"

Bible Fellowship Church
Clandonald
Services held every
Sunday at 11:00 a.m.



In Memoriam

SHYMKIW, Mike

In loving memory of a
dear husband and father,
who passed away on
December 29, 1996.

Just as you were, you will
always stay
Loved and remembered
every day
Sad are the hearts that
love you
Silent are the tears that fall
Living our lives without
you is
The hardest part of all.

Sadly missed by wife
Katherine, daughter
Rebecca and Nick.

review COMMUNITY NEWSLINE

"Mother to Mother" Breastfeeding Support Group - meets 4th Monday of every month, 10 a.m. Call 724-3332 for more info. Expectant mothers and older siblings welcome.

Elk Point Parent Nursery - Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. to Noon, Elk Point United Church Hall. Children under 6 and parents welcome. For more info, call Brenda Hayman, 724-3192 or Erin Mohyluk, 741-2140.

Al-Anon Family Group Meeting, Room 605, Elk Point Municipal Hospital, Wednesday evening at 8:30 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., Room 604, Elk Point Hospital.

T.O.P.S. meets every Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., FCSS Office, Elk Point.

"New To Town" FCSS would like to welcome and familiarize new families with the services and programs available in town. Welcome packages contain a community directory, volunteer directory, coupons, maps and more! Call 724-3800 for more information or drop by 4902 - 51 Street.

Recycle Your Paper - Paper trailer is located at the west side of the curling rink, 5118-49 Ave.. We take newspapers, flyers, computer and bond paper. No cardboard boxes, milk or egg cartons, phone books or glossy magazines. Please sort and bundle with string or put in cardboard boxes.

Elk Point Public Library - Mon. - CLOSED; Tues. and Thurs. 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wed. 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Storytime - Fri at 10:30 a.m. Photocopies. Extended library services and reliable information sources. Public meeting space available to non-profit organizations at no charge. Please call the Elk Point Library for booking at 724-3737.

The Elk Point Legion now meets on the 2nd Tues. of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Seniors' Centre.

Elk Point Auto Club - meets at the Empress Restaurant, Elk Point, the 2nd Wednesday of each month. More information call: Ed Smith, 724-2527.

Elk Point & Area "Stop Family Violence" Support Group - meetings are held 2 times a month. For more information call 724-2380, 724-3800 or 645-1950

Adoption Support Krew - meets the 2nd Mon. of every month at Social Services Bldg., St. Paul from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.. For more info call 724-3031.

Many Albertans gamble as a form of recreation. For a small minority, however, gambling becomes a problem. If you or someone you know is experiencing personal, social or financial problems as a result of their gambling, confidential help is available. Call 1-800-665-9676.

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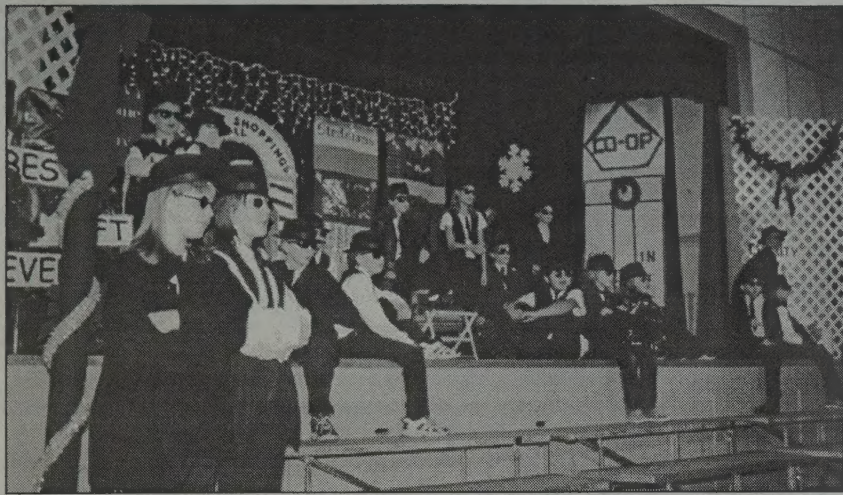
NOW SHOWING
STUART
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Sun., Tues. & Thurs.
Matinee

**ANY
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SUNDAY**
Shows Nightly
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Sun., Tues. & Thurs.
Matinee

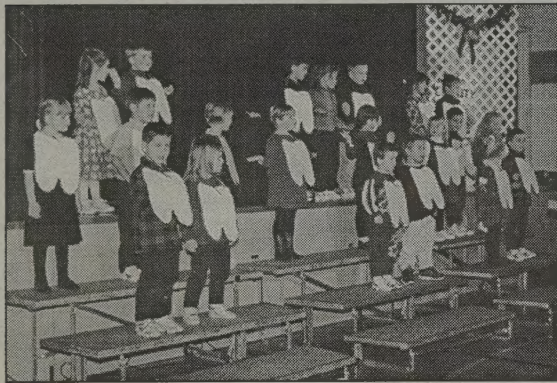
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school CONCERTS



THEY'VE GOT THE BLUES - Those Christmas Shopping Blues take hold of 5A.



ALL WE WANT FOR CHRISTMAS is new teeth, say these ECS tots in a new spin on an old melody.



SPICE AND EVERYTHING NICE -- Grade 4A spices up the concert with a dance routine.

Elementary students give "The Best Gift Ever"

Elk Point Elementary School students presented a pair of excellent concerts to family and friends last week, with the "A" classes from each grade and the Monday/Wednesday ECS students delighting Monday afternoon's audience with "The Best Gift Ever."

MCs Casandra

Bag-toting Grade 6A shoppers from Miss Sorochan's class sang "Give Us A Gift For Christmas" as they cruised around the mall, but a much younger visitor gives Santa a very practical and specific request: new front teeth. She was backed up by the Monday/Wednesday ECS group, singing "Santa, Can You Bring Me New Teeth?"

One youngster sees no need to go see Santa, "who always gives me what I want," and Mrs. Bury's 1A class is sure of one thing: they "Love Those Fuzzy Slippers" that Grandma always gives them, and do a little hoky-poky dance to prove it.

Some people feel unworthy of getting gifts, and the bad actors from Mrs. Jenner's Grade 2A are downright certain "We're Getting Rocks for Christmas." There's not much use to dream about the perfect gift when you're not on Santa's list.

One young fellow felt the mall's bake sale — all of it — would be the perfect gift, and one young lady, taking up on the sugar and spice aspect, said she'd like the Spice Girls, a crew of whom from Mrs. Gratton's 4A class, spiced up everyone's day with their lively number.

The poor charity kettle

bellringer who is a fixture at most every mall this time of year has been getting nowhere throughout the show, and still people are ignoring him. "Why can't they see that giving's what it's all about?" he laments.

Mrs. Tkachuk's 3A students feel something else has been left out — no one has ever written a song about gift wrap, so they remedy that situation. Some are just overwhelmed by the whole shopping thing, including Mrs. Capjack-Hugo's 5A crew, who glide on out in shades and fedoras to bewail the "Christmas Shopping Blues."

The mall owners definitely aren't blue: sales are up 20 percent and the contest is a huge success. The charity bellringer finally hits paydirt when his entry is drawn as the winner. "The Best Gift Ever is one that shares the joy with others," he says, and wins enough money to do just that, and to pay for Christmas dinner for all the homeless people in town.

Grade 5A's draw for a stocking of 100 loonies was won by Sylvia Boothman, while the ECS Local Advisory Council door prize draws were won by Dusty Frisby, Stephanie Kondla, Jennifer Dallaire and Arnie Price.

Slap Shot Santa scores big with audience

Tuesday's concert at Elk Point Elementary School featured the B classes of each grade and the Tuesday/Thursday ECS students in a cheerful romp entitled "Slap Shot Santa Scores Again," MC'd by Jessica Priddle and Marianchuk.

Not many of us know that Santa recently decided he wanted a hockey career, an idea which came to him when he fell asleep watching a NHL game and dreamed he was out on ice scoring a goal.

Miss Rudkowsky's ECS students started off the show on a sporty note, singing, "Up at the arena, reindeer pause..." A whole group of stuffed animals and action figures from Mrs. Wozniak's Grade 1B bemoan the fact that Santa never has time to play with them. There are "Toys, toys, a million toys... and all to give away."

Santa has other things on his mind: he wants to go skating. Can this be a midlife crisis? Mrs. Conrad's Grade 2B also take to the ice, in skating dresses and tinselled vests, to pirouette and glide, with Santa jumping

in to take part in their precision skating routine. The head elf takes Santa to task for goofing off and hustles him back to work.

There's work to be done, and Santa's production line, from Mr. Hymanyk's Grade 3B, puts on shades with their Santa hats for a rap dance to break the monotony.

Skating was the most fun Santa's had in years, but he really needed a nap. That was when he dreamed up this NHL career thing, and wakes up intent on making his dream come true. Mrs. Richard's Grade 4 agree to help and don their shorts and exercise gear for dryland training at Santa's hockey school. That's hard work but it's fun, and pretty soon the

toy orders have gotten waaaaay behind... a Network News report is quoted at saying four million toys behind schedule.

Does Santa's bid for the NHL mean no toys? This doesn't sit well with all those boys and girls out there, and Mr. Bilak's

(Continued on Page 8)

Cochrane and Jeff Huseby welcomed the large crowd and invited them to sit back and enjoy the show.

Shoppers at the much-decorated Buymore Shopping Mall have many different ideas about the perfect present would be, and the mall's management picks up on this as a great contest idea: to tell what "The Best Gift Ever" would be, with the winner to win what he or she thinks is the perfect gift.



IT'S NO FUN BEING A TOY when Santa doesn't even have time to play with you, grumble these stuffed animals and action hero figures from Grade 1B.



THREE CHHERS FOR SANTA! Grade 6B cheerleaders applaud his hockey skills.



SANTA'S HERO - The amazing Wayne Greatskate comes to the North Pole to talk sense into Santa.

community NEWS

MAKE CHRISTMAS ROCK!

Celebrate with us,
the joy of giving and the warmth of sharing.
We value your friendship and trust.

MONEY CRUNCHERS

Diane, Len, Tyson & Shauna Balash



The Lakeland Petroleum Association (LPA) was created as a forum for energy companies operating in the Lakeland Region to build on each other's experience and improve their efficiency and effectiveness. While this process has been working well, members of the Association identified the need to broaden the forum to involve community members. The Association has taken several steps towards this end, and would like to communicate its progress.

On behalf of the LPA, Imperial Oil undertook to determine whether there was community interest in participating in a collaborative process with industry. A draft process was sent to a small cross section of people in the Lakeland Region for input.

The feedback received was generally very supportive. A number of those surveyed indicated that to be successful, this process needed to be facilitated by someone from outside the Lakeland Region. As well, to ensure the participants needs were met, it would be critical to document, prioritize and resolve issues in an expedient manner.

The LPA then met to review the summarized community feedback, confirm industry commitment to proceed, and determine next steps. The most critical step identified was the involvement of the community in the development of the collaborative process.

The LPA will be inviting the general public from the Lakeland Region to an open house. The purpose of the open house will be to further explore development of the collaborative process. Details of the open house will be advertised in several Lakeland newspapers in early January. For further information, please contact any one of the LPA members.

Imperial Oil Resources
Al Short (780-639-5117)

Murphy Oil Company Ltd.
Ray Lehoux (780-724-2933)

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Mike Kearns (780-623-9635)

Union Pacific Resources Inc.
Mike Meynberg (780-724-6009)



LAKELAND
PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION

Slap Shot Santa

(Continued from Page 7)

Grade 5B starts a letter-writing campaign begging him to get back to work.

Make that FIVE million toys behind. Now the elves are really worried and call NHL hero Wayne Greatskate to fly up and talk some sense into Santa. Even better, he brings along his team so Santa can get a taste of NHL action and then get back to work. A dozen or so more elves from Mr. Sereda's class (those who aren't playing hockey) take time off for this worthy cause to cheerlead at the game. It's a great game, but Santa has a wreck and is carried off the ice. A few bandages later, he decides to hang up his skates until after Christmas.

Principal Don Conrad said there's a moral to this story — if you're going to have a midlife crisis, you should avoid hockey! He wished students and their families a happy season and a healthy new year as another year's concerts drew to a close. He thanked teachers and staff for all the effort put into the concerts, and especially Don Buryn for coordinating and providing the music for the productions.

ECS draw winners on Tuesday were Rose Kozicky, Jack White, Terry Porcina, Susan MacKinnon and Cody White.

Elk Point lights up for Christmas

(Continued from Front Page)

In the rural area, which was judged for the first time this year, only homes which has been registered or nominated were judged. Orest and Darlene Sereda and family, on Highway 28, who placed first, have a great activity scene which judges felt showed the

true meaning of Christmas, in addition to their trees outlined in blue, green and red, the star atop their house, and a swath of icicle lights which can be seen for many miles to the west.

Second place went to Donna and Doug Gollege, Highway 28, whose forest of small evergreens all trimmed alike with multicolored lights perfectly enhance their light-draped, graceful roofline. Third went to Olga and Sandra Ockerman of Ferguson Flats, with colored lights galore lighting up the night.

Elk Point United Church was applauded for the efforts which went into creating the row of flickering candles lining their sidewalks, a fitting addition to their traditional manger scene which always signals the coming of Christmas in Elk Point.

Thanks, everyone for helping to make Elk Point merry and bright this Christmas season.

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